Tasar and Mulberrry silk cultivation in Orissa

4227. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total area in Orissa which has been brought under Tasar and Mulberry silk cultivation;

(b) whether Mayurbhanj and Koraput districts in Orissa are idealy located for Tasar silk and Mulberry cultivation;

(c) if so, the steps taken to promote Tasar and Mulberry cultivation in these districts of Orissa; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) An extent of 1966 hectares are under mulberry cultivation in Orissa. Tasar sericulture is practised mostly on nature grown forest plantation. An assessment done by the State Department in tasar growing areas has indicated availability of 15989 hectares of nature grown tasar food plantation in forest areas. Apart from this 6830 hectares block plantation has been raised under Inter State Tasar Project and other programmes.

(b) Tasar and Mulberry sericulture are being practiced in Mayurbhanj and Koraput districts. The productivity in the case of mulberry sericulture is low on account of limited irrigation facilities.

(c) and (d) For development of tasar sericulture in Mayurbhanj & Koraput district, the Central Silk Board (CSB) has created following infrastructure:—

1. Regional Tasar Research Station at Baripada.

2. Tasar Research Extention Centre at Bangriposi.

3. Tasar Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre (sub-unit) at Baripada.

4. Tasar Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centre At Nowrangpur.

Besides, under the Inter State Tasar Project, 611 hectares under block plantation & 124 hectares under adapahi plantation has been developed in Mayurbhanj district and 117 hectares of tasar block plantation in Koraput district.

For development of mulberry sericulture in Mayurbhanj and Koraput districts the following projects/ programmes have been/are being implemented by CSB:—

(i) Under the National Sericulture Project which was implemented in Koraput district in Orissa infrastructure facilities were created such as basic seed farm, technical service centre, Cocoon market, demonstration cum training centre for reelers and weavers, etc.

(ii) Besides, to boost the production of silk 34 Catalytic Development Schemes have been sanctioned for implementation by the Government through Central Silk Board. Out of 34 schemes, 10 schemes have been approved during 1998-99 for being implemented in the State of Orissa. Out of these 10 schemes the following three schemes covers Mayurbhanj & Koraput districts:—

(i) Creation of improved mulberry variety banks.

(ii) On farm training and start-up tools to new mulberry sericulturists.

(iii) Master reeler assistance.

Export of handicrafts and brassware from Moradabad (U.P.)

4728. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of exporters of handicrafts and brassware located in Moradabad (U.P.) and the details of their exports in terms of foreign exchange during the last two years;

(b) whether Government are aware that frequent power cuts and load shedding in Moradabad and poor transportation are causing great problem to the exporters; and